

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Amended claim: 1-16

1. (Currently Amended) A method for dispersing gas bubbles in a production tubing (4) in an oil production well(1), the method comprising inserting at least one bubble breaker assembly(16) in the tubing(4), which assembly(16) comprises a plurality of orifices(18) that are located in a substantially eccentric position relative to a central axis of the tubing (4), ~~characterised in that~~ wherein lift gas is injected at one or more downhole gas injection points (6) spaced along the length of the production tubing (4) to enhance oil production from the well(1), and that one or more bubble breaker assemblies(16) with eccentric orifices (18) are arranged at selected distances downstream of the lift gas injection points(6).
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the downhole at least one bubble breaker assembly(16) comprises a disk-shaped plate(17) in which at least two eccentric orifices (18) are arranged.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein a plurality of bubble breaker assemblies(16) are arranged at selected distances along the length of the tubing(4).
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein ~~the~~ at least two of said bubble breaker assemblies(16) comprise disk-shaped plates(17) in which different patterns of eccentric orifices(18) are arranged.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~, wherein at least one bubble breaker assembly(16) comprises a pair of eccentric orifices(18) that are located substantially symmetrically relative to a plane of symmetry in which the central axis of the tubing (4) lies.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one bubble breaker assembly(16) comprises at least three eccentric orifices(18).

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the lift gas is injected through at least one lift gas injection orifice (6) in which a porous membrane is arranged such that finely dispersed gas bubbles are injected into the production tubing (4).

8. (Currently Amended) A method of producing crude oil, wherein large gas slugs, that are known as are Taylor bubbles(15), are broken up into finely dispersed smaller gas bubbles by means of one or more bubble breaker assemblies with eccentric orifices(18) in accordance with the method ~~according to claim 1~~ for dispersing gas bubbles in a production tubing in an oil production well, the method comprising inserting at least one bubble breaker assembly in the tubing, which assembly comprises a plurality of orifices that are located in a substantially eccentric position relative to a central axis of the tubing, wherein lift gas is injected at one or more downhole gas injection points spaced along the length of the production tubing to enhance oil production from the well, and that one or more bubble breaker assemblies with eccentric orifices are arranged at selected distances downstream of the lift gas injection points.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the ratio between the injected flux of lift gas (Q_g) and the flux of crude oil (Q_l) is less than 400 standard cubic meters per cubic meter.

10. (Currently Amended) A system for dispersing gas bubbles in a production tubing (4) in an oil production well(1), the system comprising at least one bubble breaker assembly (16) which is arranged within the tubing(4), which assembly (16) comprises a plurality of orifices(18) that are located in a substantially eccentric position relative to a central axis of the tubing(4) ~~characterised in that wherein~~ one or more downhole lift gas injection points(6) are arranged along the length of the production tubing (4) to enhance oil production from the well (1), and that one or more bubble breaker assemblies (16) with eccentric orifices (18) are arranged at selected distances downstream of the lift gas injection points(6).

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein at least one bubble breaker assembly (16) comprises a disk-shaped plate (17) in which at least two eccentric orifices (18) are arranged.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10 ~~or 11~~, wherein a plurality of bubble breaker assemblies~~(16)~~ are arranged at selected distances along the length of the tubing~~(4)~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the at least two of said bubble breaker assemblies comprise disk-shaped plates~~(17)~~ in which different patterns of eccentric orifices~~(18)~~ are arranged.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any one of~~ claims 10~~[[13]]~~, wherein at least one bubble breaker assembly~~(16)~~ comprises a pair of eccentric orifices~~(18)~~ that are located substantially symmetrically relative to a plane of symmetry in which the central axis of the tubing~~(4)~~ lies.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein the at least one bubble breaker assembly ~~(16)~~ comprises at least three substantially equidistant eccentric orifices~~(18)~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the accumulated cross-sectional area of the openings of orifices ~~(18)~~ is less than fifty per cent of the cross-sectional area of the tubing ~~(4)~~.